

STAT

60-9541

10 DEC 1960

Mr. Cornelius Van H. Engert

Dear Van:

Many thanks for the copy of your memorandum on the "Strategic Importance of the Middle East to the United States" which you were so thoughtful to bring to my attention. I read this with a great deal of interest and I have forwarded it to some of my special-ists here who I am sure will also find it interesting.

I very much appreciate your kind comment concerning President-elect Kennedy's request that I continue on in my present position.

With my best wishes,

Sincerely,

SIGNED

Allen W. Dulles  
Director

O/DCI/ [ ] bak(8 Dec. 60)

STAT

## Distribution:

Orig. - Addressee

1 - DCI

1 - Chief, NE Division w/basic &amp; encls.

1 - AAB

✓ 1 - ER *Via Reading*